

UNITED STATES RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD 844 NORTH RUSH STREET CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611-2092

FORM RRB-1099-R Tax Statement General Information

The Form RRB-1099-R tax statement(s) enclosed represent the payments made to you in the tax year(s) indicated on the tax statement(s). You will need to determine if any of the railroad retirement payments made to you are taxable. Explanations of items on the Form RRB-1099-R are found on the back side of this sheet.

Form RRB-1099-R reports the total gross paids, repayments and the Federal tax withheld from the Non Social Security Equivalent Benefit (NSSEB) portion of tier 1, tier 2, vested dual benefit (VDB), and supplemental annuity payments. These payments are treated as private pensions for tax purposes. Railroad retirement payments are **not** taxable for state income tax purposes.

There are two boxes located at the top left hand side of Form RRB-1099-R indicated as **CORRECTED** or **DUPLICATE.** One of these boxes is checked when either a corrected or duplicate Form RRB-1099-R is prepared. Both boxes are checked if the Form RRB-1099-R is a duplicate of a previously corrected Form RRB-1099-R. Neither box will be checked if this is an original Form RRB-1099-R. You may receive more than one Form RRB-1099-R for the tax year indicated. Each Form RRB-1099-R is valid and should be included when you file your income tax return for the tax year indicated. However, do **not** use the original Form RRB-1099-R when you file your income tax return if you received a duplicate or corrected Form RRB-1099-R for that same tax year.

Generally, if you are a U.S. citizen you may also receive Form RRB-1099 or if you are a nonresident alien you may receive Form RRB-1042S in addition to Form RRB-1099-R. Both the Forms RRB-1099 and RRB-1042S report the Social Security Equivalent Benefit (SSEB) portion of tier 1. If you are affected by the General Rule provisions, you must compute the taxable and nontaxable amounts of your annuity payments shown on your Form RRB-1099-R. If you are using the Simplified General Rule method, refer to the Simplified General Rule worksheet in the Instructions for Form 1040 Booklet to determine your taxable amount. For more detailed information, refer to IRS Publication 575, Pension and Annuity Income (Including Simplified General Rule). If you choose to compute your taxable contributory amount using the Simplified General Rule method, use the amounts in Boxes 3 and 4 and the number of monthly payments you received in the tax year indicated on each Form RRB-1099-R. If you are not using the Simplified General Rule method, refer to IRS Pub 939, Pension General Rule (Nonsimplified Method) to determine your taxable amount. If you previously computed your nontaxable amount, you may continue to use it. For widow(er)s that were paid as a spouse for part of the tax year, use only the annuity payments you received as a widow(er) to figure your nontaxable amount.

The totals reported on your Form RRB-1099-R may not equal the total amount of NSSEB, tier 2, VDB, and supplemental annuity payments received during the tax year indicated. For beneficiaries receiving Medicare, the difference is the total amount of Medicare premiums paid during the tax year indicated. The total Medicare premiums for the tax year indicated are not shown on any U. S. Railroad Retirement Board (RRB) tax statement.

Questions about U. S. income tax information and/or how to figure your taxable payments should be referred to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). Call IRS toll-free for answers to your Federal tax questions. However, questions about railroad retirement benefit payments should be referred to the RRB. When contacting the RRB about your Form RRB-1099-R, always give your claim number and payee code shown in Box 1 of your Form RRB-1099-R. The recipient's identification number in Box 2 of the Form RRB-1099-R is the social security number for the person listed as the recipient.

You may want to retain this Form RRB-1099-R for income verification purposes.

Please be sure the RRB always has your current mailing address.

COMPUTER MATCHING AND PRIVACY PROTECTION ACT NOTICE

The Computer Matching and Privacy Act of 1988 requires the RRB to periodically advise you that information you have provided may be used, without your consent, in automated matching programs. These matching programs are a computer comparison of RRB records with records kept by other Federal, state, or local governmental agencies. Information from these matching programs can be used to verify a person's eligibility for federally funded or administered benefit programs and for repayment of payments or delinquent debts under these programs.

EXPLANATION OF ITEMS ON FORM RRB-1099-R

- BOX 3 EMPLOYEE CONTRIBUTIONS The amount of the employee contributions shown is the latest amount reported. This amount may have increased or decreased from a previous tax statement due to adjustments in the employee contribution amount. A change in employee contributions may affect the nontaxable portion of your NSSEB/tier 2 payment. You may need to recompute that nontaxable amount as explained in IRS Pub. 575, Pension and Annuity Income (Including Simplified General Rule). The total contributions shown have not been reduced by any amounts that the RRB previously calculated as "recovery of contributions." If you are using the Simplified General Rule to compute the nontaxable portion of your NSSEB/tier 2 payment, this amount is the employee's cost in the plan (contract). Contact the RRB ONLY if you need to know the amount we previously calculated as recovered. If you or any member of your family had previous annuity entitlement that terminated between January 1, 1975, and December 31, 1983, you should contact the RRB, since the contribution amount may not be correct in those cases. However, if this box is blank, it means that you have recovered all of your contributions and your NSSEB/tier 2 payment is fully taxable. OR you are a spouse or divorced spouse and your NSSEB/tier 2 payment is fully taxable.
- BOX 4 CONTRIBUTORY AMOUNT PAID This is the gross amount of any NSSEB and any tier 2 benefits paid in the tax year indicated less any NSSEB and tier 2 repayments for that tax year. If the year for which the NSSEB and tier 2 repayments were made are not known, those repayment amounts will appear in Box 8. The figure is this item can be used by employees and survivors of deceased employees covered under General Rule provisions who wish to use the Simplified General Rule method to compute their taxable NSSEB and tier 2 benefits. If you are using the Simplified General Rule method, this amount represents the total pension received and you will need to know your number of monthly payments for the tax year indicated. If you do not know this information, contact the RRB. If you decide to use the Nonsimplified General Rule method and need the amount of your first regular periodic payment, contact the RRB.
- **BOX 5 VESTED DUAL BENEFIT -** This is the gross amount of vested dual benefit (VDB) payments paid in the tax year indicated on the tax statement less any VDB repayments for that tax year. It is fully taxable for Federal income tax purposes. However, if the year for which the VDB repayment were made is unknown, those repayment amounts will appear in Box 8.
- **BOX 6 SUPPLEMENTAL ANNUITY -** This is the gross amount of supplemental payments paid in the tax year indicated on the tax statement less any supplemental annuity repayments for that tax year. It is fully taxable for Federal income tax purposes. If the year for which the supplemental annuity repayments were made is unknown, those repayment amounts will appear in Box 8.
- **BOX 7 TOTAL GROSS PAID -** This is the sum of the amounts shown in Boxes 4, 5, and 6. If you are using the Simplified General Rule, do **not** consider this amount as the total pension received for the tax year indicated. Enter the amount shown in this box on line 16a of Form 1040, line 11a of Form 1040A, or on line 17a of Form 1040NR, or line 6a of Form 1040-T.
- BOX 8 REPAYMENTS If you received the green colored ink Form RRB-1099-R, this box will be entitled "PRIOR YEAR REPAYMENTS." Box 8 represents the sum of the repayments for prior years and repayments that we have not identified as a current year repayment made to the RRB in the tax year indicated. This amount has **not** been deducted from the current year gross amounts in Boxes 4, 5 or 6. To determine the year(s) to which the repayment applies, contact the RRB. The way you will handle the repayments will depend on the years to which the repayment applies, and whether you had included the benefits that you repaid in your gross income for those years. Refer to IRS Pub. 575, Pension and Annuity Income (Including Simplified General Rule), for instructions on how to handle prior year repayments for income tax purposes.
- **BOX 9--FEDERAL INCOME TAX WITHHELD--** This is the total amount of Federal income tax withheld on your NSSEB, tier 2, VDB, and supplemental annuity payments. Include this on your income tax return as tax withheld.

CAUTION: This box includes withholding up to the amount of NSSEB, tier 2, VDB, and supplemental annuity payments you received. If you requested a withholding amount greater than your total monthly NSSEB, tier 2, VDB, and supplemental annuity amount, the additional withholding will be shown in Box 10 on Form RRB-1099.

- **BOX 10--RATE OF TAX--** If you are a U.S. citizen, this item does **not** apply to you. If you are a nonresident alien, an entry in this item indicates the rate at which Federal tax was withheld on the NSSEB, tier 2, VDB, and supplemental annuity payments that were paid to you during the period covered by this Form RRB-1099-R.
- **BOX 11--COUNTRY--** If you are a U.S. citizen, this item does **not** apply to you. If you are a nonresident alien, an entry in this item indicates the country of which you are a legal resident at the time you received railroad retirement payments for tax purposes during the period covered by this Form RRB-1099-R.